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AUTHOR	Slater, Alan, Ed.
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ABSTRACT

The development of sensory and perceptual ability in infants is an important area of infancy research. This book reflects current knowledge of perceptual development and points to some of the many questions that remain unanswered. The book is divided into four parts. Part 1, "How the Visual System Develops: Normal and Abnormal Development," contains the following chapters: (1) "The Development of Basic Visual Abilities" (Louise Hainline); and (2) "Abnormal Visual Development" (Merrick Moseley, Meir Neufeld, and Alistair Fielder). The chapters in Part 2, "Visual Development: From Sensation to Perception," are: (3) "Nativism and Empiricism: The History of Two Ideas" (Ian Gordon and Alan Slater); (4) "The Competent Infant: Innate Organisation and Early Learning in Infant Visual Perception" (Alan Slater); (5) "Object and Spatial Categorisation in Young Infants: 'What' and 'Where' in Early Visual Perception" (Paul Quinn); (6) "The Development of Infant Causal Perception" (Leslie Cohen, Geoffrey Amsel, Melissa Redford, and Marianella Casasola); and (7) "Object Perception and Object Knowledge in Young Infants: A View from Studies of Visual Development" (Scott Johnson). Part 3, "Perception of Social Stimuli," contains the following chapters: (8) "Infant Social Perception" (Darwin Muir and Jacqueline Nadel); and (9) "Discrimination and Categorisation of Facial Expressions of Emotion during Infancy" (Michelle de Haan and Charles Nelson). Chapters in part 4, "Perception of Speech," are: (10) "Foetal Responses to Auditory and Speech Stimuli" (Jean-Pierre Lecanuet); (11) "Speech Perception during the First Year" (Peter Jusczyk, Derek Houston, and Mara Goodman); and (12) "Three Methods for Testing Infant Speech Perception" (Janet Werker, Rushen Shi, Renee Desjardins, Judith Pegg, Linda Polka, and Michelle Patterson). Each chapter contains references. (LPP)

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